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AMENDMENTS TO CLAIMS

The following listing of claims replaces all previous versions and listings of claims in the Application:

1. (Currently Amended) A method for providing selected status announcements from a wireless telephone user to a caller, said method comprising:

receiving an incoming telephone call from a caller;

responsive to a determination that an automatic answering mode applies to the incoming call:

receiving a pre-selected announcement action corresponding to said incoming telephone call; and

performing said pre-selected announcement action wherein if said pre-selected announcement action includes a hold announcement then answering said incoming telephone call by providing the caller with the hold announcement; ~~and~~

responsive to a determination that a manual answering mode applies to the incoming call:

receiving a user-selected announcement action selected by said user from a list of announcement actions, said user-selected announcement action selected in response to receiving said incoming telephone call; and

performing said user-selected announcement action including:

if said user-selected announcement action includes said hold announcement then answering said incoming telephone call by providing the caller with the hold announcement; and

if said user-selected announcement action includes a call-back announcement, then providing the caller with the call-back announcement and disconnecting the telephone call; and

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responsive to a particular caller identificationCaller-ID associated with a particular caller, sending the incoming call to a voice mail system without alerting the user of the incoming call.

2. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein said answering said incoming telephone call by providing the caller with the hold announcement further includes placing the wireless telephone in mute mode until the user has taken the incoming telephone call.

3. (Original) The method of claim 1 further comprising notifying said user of said incoming telephone call.

4. (Original) The method of claim 3 wherein said notifying includes one or more of an audible noise, a vibration, and a light.

5. (Original) The method of claim 1 further comprising reminding said user that said caller is on hold in response to said providing the caller with the hold announcement.

6. (Original) The method of claim 5 wherein said reminding said user that said caller is on hold includes one or more of an audible noise, a vibration, and a light.

7. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein input to said determination that an automatic answering mode applies to the incoming call includes a Caller ID associated with said caller.

8. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein input to said determination that an automatic answering mode applies to the incoming call includes a time of day associated with said telephone call.

9. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein input to said determination that an automatic answering mode applies to the incoming call includes an instruction from said user.

10. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein input to said determination that a manual mode applies to the incoming call includes one or more of a Caller ID associated with said caller, a time of day associated with said telephone call and an instruction from said user.

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11. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein said pre-selected announcement action includes a hold announcement.

12. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein said pre-selected announcement action includes a call-back announcement.

13. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein said pre-selected announcement action includes a voice mail announcement.

14. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 13 wherein said performing said pre-selected announcement action includes providing said caller with a recorded announcement and directing said call to asaid voice mail system.

15. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein said pre-selected announcement action is created by said user.

16. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein said hold announcement includes an indication that said user will take said call momentarily.

17. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein said hold announcement is pre-selected from a plurality of said hold announcements.

18. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein said call-back announcement is selected from a plurality of said call-back announcements.

19. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1 wherein said performing said user-selected announcement action further includes if said user-selected announcement action includes a voice mail announcement, then directing said call to asaid voice mail system including specifying said voice mail announcement.

20. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1 wherein said performing said user-selected announcement action further includes if said user-selected announcement action includes a voice mail announcement, then providing said caller with a recorded announcement and directing said call to asaid voice mail system.

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21. (Currently Amended) A wireless telephone for providing selected status announcements from a wireless telephone user to a caller, the system comprising:

a receiver which receives an incoming telephone call;

an automatic answering unit in communication with said receiver and including instructions to implement a method comprising:

receiving an incoming telephone call from a caller;

responsive to a determination that an automatic answering mode applies to the incoming call:

receiving a pre-selected announcement action corresponding to said incoming telephone call; and

performing said pre-selected announcement action wherein if said pre-selected announcement action includes a hold announcement then answering said incoming telephone call by providing the caller with the hold announcement; and

responsive to a determination that a manual answering mode applies to the incoming call:

receiving a user-selected announcement action selected by said user from a list of announcement actions, said user-selected announcement action selected in response to receiving said incoming telephone call; and

performing said user-selected announcement action including:

if said user-selected announcement action includes said hold announcement then answering said incoming telephone call by providing the caller with the hold announcement; and

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if said user-selected announcement action includes a call back announcement, then providing the caller with the call-back announcement and disconnecting the telephone call; and

responsive to a particular caller identification Caller ID associated with a particular caller, sending the incoming call to a voice mail system without alerting the user of the incoming call.

22. (Currently Amended) A system for providing selected status announcements from a wireless telephone user to a caller, the system comprising:

a network;

a wireless telephone in communication with said network; and

a host system in communication with said network, wherein said host system includes instructions to implement method comprising:

receiving an incoming telephone call from a caller to the wireless telephone;

responsive to a determination that an automatic answering mode applies to the incoming call:

receiving a pre-selected announcement action corresponding to said incoming telephone call; and

performing said pre-selected announcement action wherein if said pre-selected announcement action includes a hold announcement then answering said incoming telephone call by providing the caller with the hold announcement; and

responsive to a determination that a manual answering mode applies to the incoming call:

receiving a user-selected announcement action from said wireless telephone via said network, said user-selected announcement action selected by

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said user from a list of announcement actions, said user-selected announcement action selected in response to receiving said incoming telephone call; and

performing said user-selected announcement action including:

if said user-selected announcement action includes said hold announcement then answering said incoming telephone call by providing the caller with the hold announcement;

if said user-selected announcement action includes a voice mail announcement then directing said call to a voicemail system; and

if said user-selected announcement action includes a call back announcement, then providing the caller with the call-back announcement and disconnecting the telephone call; and

responsive to a particular caller identificationCaller-ID associated with a particular caller, sending the incoming call to a voice mail system without alerting the user of the incoming call.

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23. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 22 wherein said performing said pre-selected announcement action further includes if said user-selected announcement action includes a voice mail announcement, then directing said call to a said voice mail system.

24. (Original) The system of claim 22 wherein said network is a public switched telephone network.

25. (Original) The system of claim 22 wherein said network is an internet protocol network.

26. (Currently Amended) A computer program product for providing selected status announcements from a wireless telephone user to a caller, the computer program product comprising:

a storage medium readable by a processing circuit and storing instructions for execution by the processing circuit for performing a method comprising:

receiving an incoming telephone call from a caller;

responsive to a determination that an automatic answering mode applies to the incoming call:

receiving a pre-selected announcement action corresponding to said incoming telephone call; and

performing said pre-selected announcement action wherein if said pre-selected announcement action includes a hold announcement then answering said incoming telephone call by providing the caller with the hold announcement; and

responsive to a determination that a manual answering mode applies to the incoming call:

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receiving a user-selected announcement action selected by said user from a list of announcement actions, said user-selected announcement action selected in response to receiving said incoming telephone call; and

performing said user-selected announcement action including:

if said user-selected announcement action includes said hold announcement then answering said incoming telephone call by providing the caller with the hold announcement; and

if said user-selected announcement action includes a call back announcement, then providing the caller with the call-back announcement and disconnecting the telephone call; and

responsive to a particular caller identificationCaller ID associated with a particular caller, sending the incoming call to a voice mail system without alerting the user of the incoming call.

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27. (New) The method of claim 1, wherein the automatic answering mode includes a list of tailored announcements that cover user specific situations and each of the announcements is named.

28. (New) The wireless telephone of claim 21, wherein the automatic answering mode includes a list of tailored announcements that cover user specific situations and each of the announcements is named.

29. (New) The system of claim 22, wherein the automatic answering mode includes a list of tailored announcements that cover user specific situations and each of the announcements is named.

30. (New) The computer program product of claim 26, wherein the automatic answering mode includes a list of tailored announcements that cover user specific situations and each of the announcements is named.

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